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Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Re: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Summer Speech and Language Activities

Once again our school year is drawing to an end. I am always amazed at the progress in communication skills that students make during the school year. I would like to thank you for the work you have done with your child during the school year to help improve speaking and listening skills. I cannot stress enough the positive effect that your practice at home with your child has on improving speech and language skills. I have only about 40 minutes a week to practice new communication skills with each child. This means that each child is spending about **4,580 waking (listening and talking) minutes each week outside of speech/language therapy services**! Without parent and teacher support outside of speech/language therapy services, it is almost impossible for a child to change his or her speaking and listening habits! Now our goal is to keep those skills during the summer months and hopefully even improve on them!

I have attached a calendar to this letter for you to use during the summer to continue to help your child improve communication skills. Please try to spend a few minutes each day practicing these skills with your child. Short periods of practice that occur more frequently throughout the day are more effective than long periods of practice that occur only occasionally. A few minutes of practice each day is all it takes!

Have a wonderful summer!

Jennifer Schultz, MA/CCC-SLP

Speech/Language Pathologist